

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the Title section with the following amended Title section:

DESCRIPTION

INDUCTION HEATING APPARATUS

TITLE OF THE INVENTION

Induction Heating Apparatus

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a Section 371 of International Application No.

PCT/JP03/09844, filed August 1, 2003, which was published in the Japanese language on February 19, 2004, under International Publication No. WO 2004/016047 A1, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 17, line 26 through page 18, line 16, as follows:

Numeral 19 designates a ~~driving means~~ drive circuit, such as an inverter circuit, provided below the induction heating coil 12 to supply a high-frequency current to the induction heating coil 12. The electrostatic shield 16 is connected to a predetermined potential, which is relatively low and at which an electrostatic shielding effect is produced by the connection of the electrostatic shield, for example, a DC power supply potential input from this ~~driving means~~ drive circuit 19 via lead wires 20 or a potential lower than that of the high potential portion of the induction heating coil. The connection is carried out directly or via an appropriate impedance element, such as a capacitor or a resistor, depending on the circumstances. The stationary plate 15 and the cover for stationary plate 18 are installed on the bosses 21 of the induction heating coil base 13 using screws.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 25, lines 10 through 26, as follows:

FIGS. 3a and 3b are cross-sectional views showing in respective

directions the main section of a configuration wherein the connection terminal 17 is installed to the induction heating coil base 13; the installation is done by fitting the ribs 32 provided on the induction heating coil base 13 into the recess portions 30 of the connection terminal 17. By this fitting of the connection terminal 17 to the ribs [[31]] 32, when a Faston terminal is used for the connection between the connection terminal 17 and the lead wire 20 and when the Faston terminal is inserted/removed, the force acting between the connection terminal 17 and the connection portion 16a is received by the ribs [[31]] 32, and the connection between the connection terminal 17 and the connection portion 16a is not detached, whereby the reliability of the electrical connection can be improved.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 26, lines 10 through 15, as follows:

When a lower cover for stationary plate 33 is bonded to the rear of the connection terminal 17 as shown in FIG. 4, the live parts of the pawl portions 29 of the connection portion 17a can be prevented from being exposed, whereby the insulation of the connection terminal 17 can be improved.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 26, lines 16 through 24, as follows:

In this embodiment, the electrostatic shield 16 is formed into a C-shape, and the connection terminals 17 are provided in the vicinities of both ends thereof; however, the number of the connection terminals 17 may be one or more, and briefly speaking, the number does not matter so long as the electrostatic shield 16 of the stationary plate 15 and the driving means drive circuit 19 can be electrically connected via the connection terminals 17.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 27, lines 3 through 24, as follows:

As described above, in this embodiment, the stationary plate 15 having electrical insulation is provided between the top plate 11 and the induction heating coil 12, and the stationary plate 15 is provided with the electrostatic shield 16 and the connection portions 17a for connecting the connection wires (in the case that

the connection is carried out via capacitors, the connection wires from the capacitors) from the low-potential portion of the ~~driving means~~ drive circuit 19 to the electrostatic shield 16 (including the connection portions 16a); hence, with this configuration, production is facilitated and the effect of the high temperature of the matter 14 to be heated on the electrostatic shield 16 is relieved, in comparison with the conventional method wherein the electrostatic shield and the connection portions are formed on the rear face of the top plate 11. In addition, work for electrically connecting both securely is also facilitated. Furthermore, since the connection portions 17a are not integrated with the top plate 11, work for assembling the main body of the apparatus is also facilitated.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 28, line 22 through page 29, line 10 as follows:

Since the connection terminal 17 is configured so as to be secured to the stationary plate 15, the configuration for playing two roles, that is, the stable connection of the connection terminal 17 to the electrostatic shield 16 and the facilitation of the connection and disconnection between the connection terminal 17 and the ~~driving means~~ 20 drive circuit 19, is simplified or attained so as to have less space, whereby the handling of the stationary plate 15 and the connection terminal 17 is facilitated. Furthermore, since the connection terminal 17 itself is secured to the stationary plate 15, work for connection to and disconnection from the driving means 20 and work for routing or securing wires can be carried out easily.

Please amend the paragraph at page 36, lines 7 through 12, as follows:

When the lower cover for stationary plate 33 is bonded to the rear of the connection terminal 17, the live parts of the grommet 40 and the pawl portions 29 of the connection portion 17a can be prevented from being exposed, whereby the insulation of the connection terminal 17 can be improved.